

1. Why are there war graves in Freetown?

During the World Wars, Sierra Leone was the base for recruiting and training men for the armed forces for service across West and East Africa. During the First World War (1914-1918), Sierra Leone played a key role in helping Britain's war effort. Freetown's port was one of West Africa's most important naval bases. It served as a coaling station for ships, a base for naval patrols and a departure point for troops and supplies. It was also an important naval base in the Second World War (1939-1945) with many convoys stopping at Freetown on the way to many parts of the globe.

2. Where are the war graves in Freetown?

There are CWGC war graves and memorials at three locations across Freetown. Study the map below to see where they are.

3. Discover where these people came from

Use the flags to discover where some of the soldiers who are buried and remembered in Freetown came from.

Freetown (King Tom) Cemetery

534 graves

From: Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, St Vincent, United Kingdom



Freetown (King Tom) Cemetery Memorial

35 names

From: Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom



Freetown Memorial

1459 names

From: Gambia, India, Jamaica, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Kingdom



Wilberforce Cemetery

28 names

From: Sierra Leone



Freetown (Lumley) Cemetery

74 graves

From: Nigeria, Sierra Leone, United Kingdom



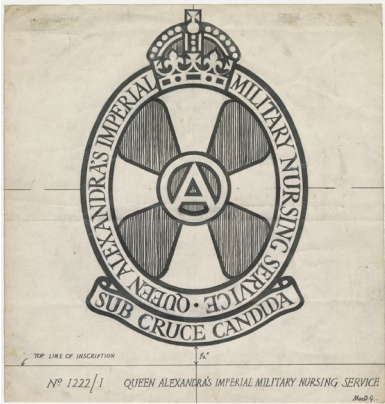
4. Discover more about the service of those buried at Freetown (King Tom) Cemetery

4.1 Each headstone in the cemetery tells a different story.

As you explore the cemetery see what you can learn from the headstones. See if you can find the following;

- 1. Who is the **youngest** soldier you can find?
- 2. Who is the **oldest** soldier you can find?
- 3. How many **different countries** did they come from?

4.3 As you explore the cemetery, look at the different badges on the headstones. These will give you a clue as to the role the person had, and maybe where they came from. As you find each badge, write down the name of the person who served with that unit, or service in the box next to the badge.



4.2 There is just one headstone which has this badge engraved on. Who were they and what was their role?



The West African Frontier Force was an infantry unit which recruited in Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone.



The Royal Canadian Navy served protecting convoys during the Battle of the Atlantic from 1940-1945.



The Merchant Navy was the largest in the world. It recruited people from all over the globe to serve on the ships.



The King's African Rifles was an infantry unit. It recruited in Kenya, Malawi, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda.



South African units served in Africa and Europe during the First World War. Can you find the one South African soldier buried here?



The Australian Imperial Force fought in Europe and the Middle East. Can you find the Australian captain who died in 1917?

Discover more at cwgc.org/stories